

FISCAL NOTE
SB 312 - HB 547

April 7, 2005

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Commissioner of the Department of Education to submit an annual report to the general assembly on the standards of school construction including an analysis of the bidding process for materials and professional services involved in such construction.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase Local Govt. Expenditures – Not Significant

Assumption:


- Any cost to local governments to prepare and distribute a report of the standards of school construction including an analysis of the bidding process, is estimated to be not significant and can be handled within existing budgets.

For information purposes:

- The Department of Education currently requires all LEAs to submit design documents for new construction and renovation of school buildings to the State Fire Marshall for review and approval.
- The department does not require LEAs to comply with any standards for new construction or renovation beyond that which the State Fire Marshall has outlined in the NFPA 101 Life Safety Code.
- LEAs are responsible for retaining the services of a certified architect to provide a design capable of meeting the facilities needs. Once approval for the design has been acknowledged by the State Fire Marshall's office, the LEA is required to comply with T.C.A. 49-2-203(a)(4) in the bid and contract phases of the project.
- Upon completion of the design phase the department does not require a report to be submitted regarding the bid and contract phases in the construction of school buildings.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director